

THE MARQUEE

Publication of the Association of Kansas Theatre
January 1996



From Ric . . .



Convention -- this is going to be fun! As you can see from the enclosed information, we'll have performances, we'll have workshops and we'll have "a star!" Pat Carroll is a delight and we'll all benefit by rubbing elbows with a woman who has devoted her life to a successful career in the theatre.

PLEASE -- PLEASE -- PLEASE -- let's be ready for this convention -- and in order to be ready, we need your registration: **BY FEBRUARY 15TH AT THE LATEST!! AND THAT MEANS EVERYONE!!!**

AKT is notorious for last minute registrations and for memberships coming in under the wire. Sally and I could run a much smoother operation if we knew exactly how many people to plan for at all the convention events.

Also, we may have been budgeting unrealistically on memberships for the past few years. If we don't have your membership, we can't really tell how many people are benefitting from AKT's services. If we are an organization of only 60-100 members rather than 200-300, we need to

re-evaluate how many Marquees should go out and what other services we will be able to offer.

Please send in your membership and send in your registration upon receipt of this Marquee. I promise I'll send mine as well.

ANOTHER ITEM OF NOTE. Several people have commented on the high meal cost at this convention -- thinking we were defraying the cost of Pat Carroll's visit through the dinner pricing. In fact, the Restaurant charge at the Hotel is quite high. We stand to make about \$3.00 per plate on meals, most of which will go to providing complimentary meals to Pat and other special guests. Pat is being very generous with us and the cost of her coming is in the overall convention budget.

Please plan to attend the meal. I would hate to have Ms. Carroll come out and then have no one join us at the meal to greet her and welcome her to Kansas. I've promised her that we're a wonderful and fun group. I hope you'll join me in welcoming the "grande damme" to the land of Oz!

A FINAL NOTE ON MONEY & COMMUNICATION:

As we get closer to convention, don't hesitate to call, E-mail or Fax -- Sally or me. Even if you can't "pay up front" for the convention or a meal, we need to get an accurate head count -- so *don't be left out!*

Auditions '96

Professional and student auditions will be held concurrently at AKT Convention '96 in Overland Park, Kansas. The date for the auditions is Saturday, March 2 at 9:00 a.m. at Johnson County Community College. The Auditions planning sub-committee is developing another successful program. A separate \$15.00 fee covers auditions and includes all of Saturday's workshops and performances. Please contact Heather Laird for professional audition information at (816) 531-0331, for student audition information call Jeannette Bonjour at (913) 842-3570, or for community college information call Tony Naylor at (913) 231-1010, ext. 1639. For auditions registration information, call the AKT Central Office.

Deadline for articles for the next Marquee: March 15, 1996. Mail or fax to AKT Central, Office, c/o Sally Thibodeau Executive Director, AKT, P.O. Box 1873 Lawrence, KS 66044-1873. 800-343-2779. Fax: (913) 841-5923. Via Internet: rfvk00a@prodigy.com

Board of Directors Changes

The board says "goodbye and thank you!" to Michael Byington who has resigned due to schedule conflicts. "Hello and welcome!" to new members Jason Ware of Seem-To-Be Players and Sheilah Philip-Bradfield of Johnson County Community College!

Events Calendar

February 1996

**29- Mar. 3 AKT/
AACT-Region V Convention!
Overland Park, KS**

1-3 "Midsummer Night's Dream"
McPherson College

1-3 "The Pirates of Penzance"
Salina Community Theatre

1-4,8-10 "The Nerd"
Boot Hill Repertory Theatre

2-4, 8-11 "Crimes of the Heart"
The Manhattan Civic Theatre

2-4, 6-10 "The Skriker"
KU Inge Series

9-11 "Animal Farm"
Coffeyville Comm. College

15-18 "Small Craft Warnings"
Johnson Cty. Comm. College

15-16 "The Magician's Nephew"
Highland Comm. College

16 "The Very First Family"
Salina Community Theatre

16-17, 23-24 "Crossing Delancy"
Junction City Little Theater

17 "Story Theatre"
KU Theatre for Young

22-25 "Killjoy"
Great Bend Community Theatre

28-Mar. 2 "Baby with the Bath-
water" Emporia State U. Theatre

March 1996

1-3, 8-10 "The Best of
Broadway" musical revue
The Columbian Theatre

1-30 "Into the Woods"
Topeka Civic Theatre

5-6 "Women Who Raised Cain
Instead of Tomatoes"
Shawnee Mission North H.S.

7-9 Original One Acts I & II
Shawnee Mission North H.S.

8-10 "Hotel Paradise"
McPherson College

8-10, 14-16 "Rashomon"
KU Theatre

8-10 "Lend Me a Tenor"
Manhattan Civic Theatre

9 "Ming Lee and the Magic Tree"
Johnson County Comm. College

14 A.R.T. Improvisation Show
Shawnee Mission North H.S.

28-31 "Funny Money"
Boot Hill Repertory Co.

April 1996

5-6 "The Tale of Jemima Puddle-
Duck" Seem-To-Be Players

5,6,8-13 "The Women of Troy"
KU Theatre

10-13 "A Few Good Men"
Shawnee Mission North H.S.

11-13 "Oz"
Coffeyville Comm. College

11-14, 18-21, 25-27 "Funny
Money" Boot Hill Repertory Co.

12 William Inge Festival
Independence Comm. College

16-20 "A Piece of My Heart"
Russell Community Theatre

18-21 "Everybody Loves Opal"
Great Bend Community Theatre

19-20, 26-27 "You Know I Can't
Hear You When the Water is
Running"
Junction City Little Theater

19-May 11 "Les Liaisons
Dangereuses" Topeka Civic

20 Spring Children's Show
Shawnee Mission North area
elementary students

24-27 "The Three Sisters"
Emporia State Univ. Theatre

26-28 "To The Last Drop: The
Ogallala Aquifer And The High
Plains Of Kansas" KU Theatre

26-28 "A Few Good Men"
Salina Community Theatre

26 Best of Drama
Shawnee Mission North H.S.

Touring Shows Available from Seem-To-Be Players:

"The Bremen Town Musicians,"
"Trickster Tales From the Melting
Pot," "A Day in the Life of
Perseus Magellan Hannibal Jones
the 33rd," "Red Blood and High
Purpose"

Box Office Contacts --next page

Box Office Contacts

Apple Valley Theatre (913)
876-2114 or (913) 842-6622

Boot Hill Repertory Company
(316) 225-1001

Chanute Community Theatre
(316) 431-1628

Coffeerville Comm. Coll.Theatre
(316) 251-7700, ext. 2145

The Columbian, Wamego, KS
(913) 456-2029

Emporia State Univ. Theatre
(316) 342-5374

Great Bend Community Theatre
(316) 792-4228

Great Plains Theatre Festival
(913) 263-4574

Highland Comm. College
(913) 442-6000

Independence Comm. College
William Inge Festival
(316) 331-4100

Johnson Cty. Comm. College
(913) 469-4445

Junction City Little Theater
(913) 238-6220

KU (University of Kansas) Theatre
(913) 864-3982

McPherson College
(316) 241-0731, x1211

Manhattan Civic Theatre
(913) 539-6000

Russell Community Theatre
(913) 483-4057

Salina Community Theatre
(913) 827-6126

Seem-To-Be Players
(913) 842-6622 or 843-5067

Shawnee Mission North Theatre
(913) 789-3700

Topeka Civic Theatre
(913) 357-5211

'95/'96 Board of Directors

--Revised--

President
Ric Averill
(h) 913-842-6622

Children's Division
Deb Wall, Chair
h) 913-667-4685 or (w) 913-827-6126

Trish McIntire, Chair-elect
(h) 316-442-8532

Jason Ware, At Large
(w) 913-842-6622

Pam Jones, At Large
(h) 913-825-7632

Secondary Division
Jeannette Bonjour, Chair
(w) 913-832-5050 x315 or (h) 913-842-3570

Jeanne Averill, At Large
(h) 913-842-6622

Professional Division
Heather Laird, Chair
(w) 816-531-0331

University/College Division
Tony Naylor, Chair
(w) 913-231-1010, Ext. 1639
(h) 913-266-9022

Susan Sutton, Community College Liaison
(w) 913-243-1435 or 800-729-5101
(h) 913-243-7861

Sheilah Philip-Bradfield, At Large
(913) 469-8500 x3132

Holly Andrews, At Large
(h) 913-357-4457

Community Theatre Division
Rick Bushnell, Chair
(w) 316-431-2210 or (h) 316-431-3213

Kathryn Page-Hauptman,
Chair-elect
(w) 316-634-2787 or (h) 316-682-1775

Sally O'Connor, At Large
(w) 316-793-1521 or (h) 316-793-3103

Kris Anschutz, At Large
(h) 316-662-7978

Historic Theatre Division
Linda Uthoff, Chair
(h) 913-537-9096 or (w) 913-456-2029

Thank you to our '95/'96 Members!

At the time of Marquee printing, we gratefully acknowledge receipt of the following members' dues. If you have any questions about the status of your membership this year, please call Sally Thibodeau, AKT Executive Director, at 800-343-2779.

Individual Members

Bob Allford
K.B. Bell
Joan Pottorf Blazek
Corene M. Breen
Rick Bushnell
Melanie Calcara
Cindy Crowl
Warren Deckert
Joseph Diekmann, III
Dorothy Donnelly
Robert Feldt
Margaret Godfrey
Dee Hansen
Louise Hanson
Roberta Harkness
Jo Herian
John Hunter
Pam Jones
Charles Kephart
April LaMarca
Trish McIntire
Sharon Miller
Sheilah Philip-Bradfield
Lewis Shelton
I. Jay South
Kathy Triplett
Deb Wall
Dick Welsbacher
Don Whitebread

Organizations

Wright/Laird Casting
Great Bend Community Theatre
Kansas State University Theatre
McPherson College
Salina Community Theatre
The Columbian Theatre
Garden City Community College
The Boot Hill Repertory Co.
Shawnee Mission North H.S.
Iola Community Theatre
Junction City Little Theater
Washburn University Theatre
Brown Grand Theatre
Highland Community College
Sterling College Theatre Dept.
University of Kansas Theatre
Johnson County Community College

Organization Teams

Seem-To-Be Players
Emporia State University Theatre

Convention Schedule

Thursday, February 29

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm **Registration**

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
AKT Board Meeting

Dinner on your own

8:30 pm - 9:30 pm Comedy Sportz! A wild and crazy program for AKT.

10:00 pm - 12:00 midnight
Reception

Friday, March 1

Breakfast on your own

9:00 am - 12:00 noon **Registration**

9:00 am - 11:45 am
Education Forum--Connie Burkett of the Kansas Alliance for Arts Education, Dee Hansen of Kansas Board of Education and others discussing "Standards 2000."

9:00 am - 10:15 am
Workshop--Gene Friedman on the design process.

10:30 am - 11:45 am
Workshop A-- Michael Byington on inclusion for disabled actors "Special Theatre or Inclusion: The Path Forks."
Workshop B--Maureen Davis "Stagewrite" workshop.

Lunch on your own

1:30 pm - 2:45 pm
Workshop A--Mark Frank on Sketch and Comedy Improvisation.
Workshop B--Nancy Marcy scripts workshop.

1:30 pm - 2:45 pm
Performance-- "Ming Lee and the Magic Tree" children's show by Johnson County Community College.

3:00 pm - 4:15 pm
Workshop A--Libby Roman on the Lessac Method.
Workshop B--Mark Frank on Games Improvisation.
Performance-- "Carmina Burana" by Shawnee Mission East High School.

4:30 pm - 5:45 pm
Workshop A-- Dan Mayo of XS Lighting.
Workshop B-- High School Auditions preparation.

Dinner on your own

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Performance-- by Illustrated Theatre company

9:00 pm - 10:30 pm
Performance-- by Overland Stage Productions

10:30 pm - 12:00 midnight
AFTERGLOW

Saturday, March 2

Breakfast on your own

9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Professional Auditions
Student Auditions
Dance Auditions

9:00 am - 10:15 am
Workshop--Lee Hitchler on portfolio assessment.

10:30 am - 11:45 am
Workshop-- by The Imagination Workshop.
Performance/workshop--Kate Griffin "Amelia Earhart" infused.

Performance-- "Women Who Raised Cain Instead of Tomatoes" by Shawnee Mission North High School

1:30 pm - 2:45 pm
Workshop--Rick Groetzinger and a panel on "The Acting Class at the Community College Level: A Discussion."

Performance-- "Perseus" by the Seem-To-Be Players

3:00 pm - 4:15 pm
Workshop A-- Mary Guaraldi on preparing for AACT-FEST '96.
Workshop B--New Dinner Theatre Restaurant.
Workshop C-- Richard Alan Nichols acting workshop.
Performance/workshop--excerpts from "Lovers" and dialect discussion by John Hunter of Washburn University.

4:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Workshop A--Corey Hansen on the Suzuki method of actor training.
Workshop B--Howard Martin on the philosophy of theatre, "What Did I Need to Know?"
Performance-- "Kiss Me Kate" excerpts by Olathe East High School.

4:45 pm - 5:45 pm
AACT Region V
Annual Meeting

7:30 pm - 9:30 pm **DINNER WITH PAT CARROLL!!!**

10:00 pm - 12:00 midnight
Reception/Afterglow

Sunday, March 3

Breakfast and hotel checkout on your own

9:00 am - 10:00 am
AKT Board Meeting

10:00 am - 11:30 am
AKT Divisional Meetings

11:30 am - 1:30 pm **AKT Awards Luncheon and Annual Meeting**

Don't forget-- SPEED YOUR REGISTRATION AND HELP US HAVE YOUR MATERIALS AND MEALS READY. PRE-REGISTER!

AKT Welcomes AACT Region V to the Convention!

The AKT Board of Directors has invited the AACT Region V members to join our convention activities as part of their second annual convention. There will be a special annual meeting for AACT Region V members on Saturday, March 2.

The creative combination was conceived by Rick Bushnell, AKT board member and AACT Region V member as a cost-effective and fun way for the region to get together in Kansas in '96. The AKT Board and Executive Director are working hard to coordinate with Donna Norberg, Region V representative to ensure an enjoyable and educational program.

AACT Region V members who are not also AKT members are being asked to make their contribution to the expenses in the registration fee-- only \$75.00 for the entire weekend of workshops, entertainment and networking. AKT members receive the member discount fee of \$65.00 because AKT is underwriting the planning, promoting, mailing, entertainment and other time and expenses associated with a convention of this size.

For your convenience, transportation between the convention hotel and the Johnson County Community College is being planned. Please call the AKT Central Office at 800-343-2779 if you have any questions about the convention fees or program.

PLEASE--PREREGISTER!

To The Last Drop: The Ogallala Aquifer And The High Plains of Kansas

The University Theatre at the University of Kansas encourages the development of new plays that deal with the human experience on the Great Plains with special priority being given to plays that deal with themes concerning life in Kansas. A play contest has been established to encourage the development of such plays for future years. In the meantime, and as a first step in this commitment, The University Theatre will produce an original play, in the spring 1996 semester, about an issue that is of concern to all who live in Kansas and on the Great Plains.

To The Last Drop: The Ogallala Aquifer And The High Plains Of Kansas, is an original dramatic presentation dealing with the history, present state, and future of the Ogallala Aquifer in Western Kansas. The play unfolds with the geological formation of the Aquifer, and then continues with scenes dramatizing the settlement of Western Kansas by the homesteaders and other immigrants from 1865 to 1930 and their attempts to find dependable sources of ground water on the semi-arid High Plains. In Act Two, the discovery of the Aquifer and its uses as a source of water for irrigation in the 1950's and 60's is presented before the play ends with the current debate surrounding the use and misuse of the Aquifer from 1970 to the present day. The staging will employ the use of simple, direct,

and bold theatrical devices including narration, song, docu-drama, sound, projections, and articulated scenic effects. To The Last Drop teams up playwright Del Unruh, director Ron Willis, scene and lighting designer Mark Reaney, and costume designer Daisey Hethcoat with a host of Kansas citizens including artists, scientists, scholars, engineers, farmers, groundwater experts, and consumer in creating a unique and entertaining presentation.

Performance dates are April 26, 27, May 2,3,4 at 8:00 p.m.; and April 28 at 2:30 p.m.. All performances are in the Crafton-Preyer Theatre on the University of Kansas Campus. For ticket information call (913) 864-3982.

Antigone at Lawrence High School

Millard Denny, who ran the Lawrence High School drama program for over thirty years, is directing our upcoming production of Jean Anouilh's Antigone. This will be Millard's last production at LHS before he retires this spring.

Performances are February 1, 2, and 3 at 8:00 p.m. in the Lawrence High School auditorium, 1901 Louisiana, Lawrence, Kansas. There will be a reception honoring Millard following the Thursday night performance.

If you can't attend, but would like to send a message to Millard to be shared at the Thursday reception, mail your best wishes to: Jeannette Bonjour, LHS, 1901 Louisiana, Lawrence, Kansas 66046.

AKT Community Theatre Grants to be Awarded at Convention '96!

AKT has been awarded a grant from the Southwestern Bell Foundation to partially underwrite the cost of community theatre groups mounting a production for AACT-FEST '97. AKT will again offer mini-grants to each production participating. The money will be divided equally based upon the number of entrants. However, this money must be given out this fiscal year.

If your theatre has brought a production to AACT-FEST in the past, or if you have considered it but never done it, now is the time! We are asking each community theatre to submit a proposal for entering AACT-FEST '97 so that we can award these mini-grants at the '96 convention at JCCC February 29 - March 3. You will need to identify your theatre and a contact person, but not necessarily the production you plan to bring.

Proposal forms were recently mailed to our list of community theatres in Kansas. If you did not receive a form, please call the AKT Central Office.

Call for '97 Convention/AACT-FEST Chairs and '99 AACT- FEST Site!

The AKT Board of Directors is already planning for your '97 AACT-FEST in Independence at Independence Community College on March 6 - 9, 1997. Chairpersons are needed now. Please call the AKT Central Office for more information.

If your theatre organization would like to host the '99 AACT-FEST, please get in touch with the AKT Central Office as well!

Reminder!

Last chance to renew or add your name to the membership roster and continue your "Marquee" subscription, receive the updated directory and other member benefits for '95/'96. AKT Memberships run from September 1, 1995 to August 31, 1996.

